

*Inquiries of the Ministry*MEDICARE—APPLICABILITY OF PLAN
TO NATIVE PEOPLES

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In the light of the complaint made by spokesmen for the Alberta native people, is it the intention of the government to honour the so-called Medical Chest Treaty which guarantees that the medical treatment of some Alberta Indians will be paid for by the federal government, and will such an arrangement be brought into effect in connection with the medicare plan as it relates to native people in Alberta?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): I shall be visiting tomorrow the Indian community to which the hon. member refers and I shall be encouraging these people to participate in the Alberta medicare scheme.

Mr. Mazankowski: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Has the minister received representations from the native people in Alberta and, if he has replied, will he tell the house the nature of his reply?

Mr. Munro: I have not to my knowledge received any official communication from them, though I am aware, from the news media, of the position they have taken.

CIGARETTES—NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): My question is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the fine example the minister has set in discontinuing smoking himself, and the fight-back spirit he has shown toward the cigarette companies, and in view of the fine example of C.T.V. and the C.B.C. in refusing to accept cigarette advertising, would the minister use his good offices to persuade the newspapers across Canada not to accept cigarette advertising?

EFFECTS OF CONSUMPTION BY HUMANS OF
CAT AND DOG FOODS

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Speaker. In light of the fact that some of our old age pensioners are now reported to be eating canned cat and dog food to avoid starvation, will the minister tell us whether his department is conducting any tests or experiments to ascertain whether this practice is detrimental to health? I ask this question because it

[Mr. Rynard.]

appears to me that if the government continues to tackle the problem of inflation as it has been doing up to now, many of us will be forced into trying the same thing.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

BAIL—REQUEST FOR REFORM LEGISLATION

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): I have a question for the Minister of Justice, Mr. Speaker, of which I have given him notice. Bearing in mind the interest generated in our bail system arising out of the Montreal case, can the hon. gentleman report when bail reform legislation will be presented to this house?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): The Department of Justice is actively reviewing the whole question of bail and detention before trial, and is awaiting with great interest a report on this subject.

GRAIN

WHEAT—CONTROLLER TO ENSURE PROPER
BOX CAR DISTRIBUTION

Mr. A. B. Douglas (Assiniboia): I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Is any consideration being given to the appointment of a transport controller to ensure there will be an adequate and equitable distribution of box cars in western Canada for the balance of this crop year, which ends on July 31 next?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Not by me, Mr. Speaker; but maybe other people in my department, or other departments interested, are doing so, and I shall inquire.

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): A supplementary question directed to the Minister of Agriculture. Is the minister aware that that cash loan was only a small creek and that it has now dried up?

[Translation]

THE MINISTRY

OFFER OF POST TO MR. PAUL GÉRIN-LAJOIE

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister.

In view of the meeting that took place yesterday between the Prime Minister and the former Quebec Minister of Education, Mr. Paul-Gérin Lajoie,—I am sure you will